

**PLATFORM LIFT APPARATUS WITH INTEGRATED LADDER
FOR ACCESSING ATTIC STORAGE SPACE**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A platform lift system includes a mounting frame that is fixedly engaged into a scuttle hole formed in a horizontal supporting surface (i.e., attic floor or room ceiling) and a foldable ladder that is supported by the frame. A separate trolley carries a lift platform that may be selectively raised or lowered in order to transport objects to/from the attic space. The trolley is moveable horizontally along a track that may be provided on a floor of the attic space. At a first end of travel of the trolley along the track, the trolley is disposed laterally alongside and vertically offset from the mounting frame such that the space above the mounting frame is unimpeded to permit a user to access the attic space using the deployed ladder. At a second end of travel of the trolley along the track, the trolley is aligned vertically with the mounting frame to permit use of the lift platform. The trolley further includes a drive system that controls the movement of a plurality of lift tethers that are coupled to the platform. The platform is raised by withdrawing the lift tethers, and is lowered by paying out the lift tethers. The ladder further includes a track that provides a guide for movement of a lift platform.